

**P A T E N T**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant:	GENE DIPOTO et al.	Confirmation No.:	1092
Serial No.:	10/693,815	Examiner:	ANURADHA RAMANA
Filing Date:	OCTOBER 24, 2003	Group Art Unit:	3733
Docket No.:	1291.1143101	Customer No.:	28075
Title:	METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR STABILIZING THE SPINE THROUGH AN ACCESS DEVICE		

**AMENDMENT WITH RCE**

Mail Stop RCE  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATE FOR ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION**

I hereby certify that this paper(s) is being electronically transmitted to the U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office on the date shown below

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Thu H. Le-To

\_\_\_\_\_  
DECEMBER 26, 2007  
Date

Dear Sir:

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Official Action of the Examiner mailed September 26, 2007, setting a three-month shortened statutory period for response ending December 26, 2007. This paper is filed within the set period for response such that no extension of time is necessary. Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0413.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 9 of this paper.